

# HERE'S THE BUZZ

from State Senator **Buzz Thomas**

May 2003



## How to Reach Buzz Thomas

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Fax: 517-373-5227

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www.detbuzz.com

*Dear Friends:*

*I am proud to be sending you this newsletter from my new Senate office. As many of you know, I was a state representative for six years, proudly serving northwest Detroit, and I was also the House Democratic Leader. Many of you are my former House constituents.*

*For those of you that do not know me, my name is Buzz Thomas and I am your new State Senator from the Fourth Senate District.*

*More importantly, I am proud and humbled to be your new Senator and I look forward to working with you in the coming months and years. I look forward to getting to know the new members of my district and I can't wait to visit again with my friends from the House district. If you have an event or meeting you would like me to attend, please do not hesitate to contact me; I would like to put your event on my calendar.*

*Also, if you ever have a problem with state government, or just have a question, please do not hesitate to call me, toll-free, at 866-348-6304 or e-mail me at [senbthomas@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:senbthomas@senate.michigan.gov). I am always available and I look forward to hearing from you.*

*Sincerely,*

*Buzz Thomas  
State Senator*



# Senator Thomas Working For Detroit

## Committee Assignments

I am proud to announce that I will be serving on three committees. I am the top ranking Democrat on the Finance Committee and will also be serving on Government Operations and Agriculture, Forestry and Tourism.

## Legislation

Even though session has barely started, I am already introducing numerous bills that will have a positive impact on Detroit. Below is a description of just a few of those bills.

I introduced the Detroit Area Regional Transportation Authority (**DARTA**) Bills. These bills passed the legislature last year, only to be vetoed by the former governor at the 11th hour. Both the Detroit News and Detroit Free Press commended my quick

action on this important legislation.

My **Anti-Bullying Bill** was reintroduced this year. This bill would require school districts to develop a plan on dealing with bullies; provide training on the bullying prevention policy for school employees

important to all of us. I reintroduced the three-bill package from last year. These bills would create and require the use of traffic stop reporting forms every time a motorist is stopped by a law enforcement officer; require local law enforcement agencies to keep traffic



and volunteers who have significant contact with students; and discuss the harassment, intimidation, or bullying policy with students.

**Racial Profiling** is a major issue that is

stop forms and make them available to the public; require law enforcement agencies to investigate racial profiling complaints; allow law enforcement officers who received a substantial number of racial profiling

complaints to be assigned to racial sensitivity training; and allow civil actions for appropriate injunctive relief or damages.

I also introduced a **Drug Nuisance Abatement Bill**, which would make it easier for neighborhoods and community organizations to go after and shut down drug homes in their neighborhood.

Of course, the best bills come from you. There are numerous times when my colleagues and I have received fantastic ideas from people just like you! If you have any ideas on bills I should introduce, or would like more information on the bills I introduced, please feel free to contact me. I would love to hear your ideas. If you need more information regarding these bills or any other bills, please feel free to call me toll-free at 866-348-6304 or you can e-mail me at [senbthomas@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:senbthomas@senate.michigan.gov).



## I Want To Meet You!

I am available to speak to your club, neighborhood group, church, school, business association, labor union, or any other organization. With enough planning, I can also arrange speakers from the state, including, but not limited to, the Insurance Commissioner and representatives from the Department of Civil Rights, Department of Education, Family Independence Agency, and Labor and Economic Development. Please contact me toll-free at **866-348-6304**, or e-mail me at [senbthomas@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:senbthomas@senate.michigan.gov) to set up a meeting.

# FREE Pancake Breakfast and Unity In The Community Picnics

To honor Detroit's families, I will be holding a free Detroit's Families Pancake Breakfast. The free pancake breakfast will be at:

**Benedictine High School,  
8001 W. Outer Drive,  
June 14, from  
8:00 am - 9:30 am.**



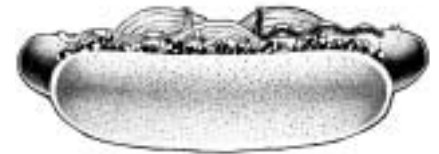
This is a great opportunity for me to personally thank you for all your help and to meet my new friends.

To celebrate summer and thank everyone from the community for all their help, I will be holding five Unity In The Community Picnics. These free picnics will be held from **12 noon - 1:30 pm:**

- **June 7, Farwell Field, East Outer Drive, east of Ryan Road, west of Mound Road**
- **June 21, Palmer Park, 7 Mile, west of Woodward**

- **July 12, Russell Woods, near Livernois and Davison**
- **July 19, David Kelley Park, at Puritan and Oakfield**
- **August 9, Clark Park, Southwest Detroit**

I look forward to meeting you at these events!



## FREE Internet Filter and Publications Available

*The following items are available, free of charge. Please check the appropriate box(es) below, fill in your name and address in the space provided, and return this entire coupon to: **State Senator Buzz Thomas, P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7536** or you may call me with your order toll-free at **866-348-6304**. You may also e-mail your request to me at [senbthomas@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:senbthomas@senate.michigan.gov).*

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| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Citizen's Guide to State Government</i>    | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Consumer Protection Resource Guide</i>                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Services for Seniors</i>                   | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Peace of Mind; A Do-It-Yourself Guide to Medical and Legal Decisions</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Getting to Know Michigan Coloring Book</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Your Child, A Parent's Guide to Health and Safety</i>                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Free Internet Filters on CD</i>            | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>The Legislative Process in Michigan, a Student's Guide</i>               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Maps of Michigan</i>                       |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Tenants and Landlords</i>                  |  |

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_, MI Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (     ) \_\_\_\_\_



**State Senator  
Buzz Thomas**

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Lansing, MI 48909-7536



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# FREE Pancake Breakfast and Community Picnics



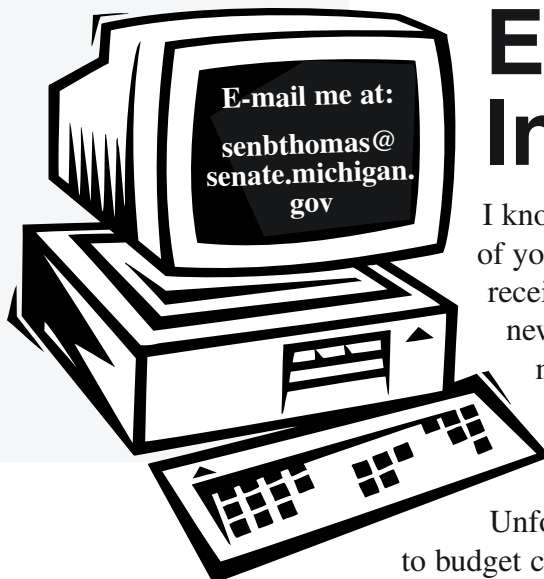
## Mark Your Calendar Today!

*See page 3 inside this newsletter for more details.*

JUNE 2003						
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E-mail me at:  
[senbthomas@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:senbthomas@senate.michigan.gov)

## E-mail Updates Instead of Newsletters

I know many of you enjoy receiving newsletters from me and I really enjoy writing them.

Unfortunately, due to budget cuts, this might

be the last newsletter for the year. I am trying cost effective ways of reaching out to you and one way is to sign up for my weekly e-mail update. Entitled *The Friday Report*, it brings you A Clear Vision of Events in Detroit, Lansing, and

Washington, DC.

If you are interested in receiving these updates, please give me your e-mail address by calling me **toll-free at 866-348-6304** or e-mailing me at **[senbthomas@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:senbthomas@senate.michigan.gov)**.